

FIREWOOD CUTTING AND GATHERING

Sequoia National Forest



INTRODUCTION: This brochure provides an overview of the regulations pertaining to FIREWOOD CUTTING and GATHERING.

Check at local ranger stations for current fire danger conditions and local information regarding woodcutting. Woodcutters will be held personally accountable for wildfires that result from their actions while in the forest.

The purchase of a wood gathering permit does not guarantee that you will find the type and amount of wood you desire: NO REFUND of fees will be made after you purchase the permit.

WHERE IS IT? The best place to find concentrations of dead wood is where either a timber sale or a pre-commercial tree thinning operation has recently been completed. For information on these locations, contact one of our five DISTRICT OFFICES. The people there are in the forest daily and are familiar with local conditions.

If you look and work hard enough, you can find good firewood almost anywhere in the Sequoia National Forest. In the lower elevations that are accessible most of the year and immediately adjacent to major roads, the supply is more limited, simply because a lot of people have been there before you. The more particular you are about the type of firewood you want and the distance you will travel to get it, the harder it will be to find what you want.

Private land exists within the Forest boundary. The Forest Service cannot authorize you to cut or gather wood on private land.

The Sequoia National Forest Visitor Information Map shows the approximate locations of private landholdings and roads that are open to the public, as well as other details in navigation while in the forest.

These maps may be purchased for an additional charge at Ranger District offices and at the Supervisor's Office.

HOW DO I GET FIREWOOD? Before you collect any firewood, you are required to obtain a personal use firewood-cutting permit. This is available at the six offices listed in this brochure, and at some seasonal offices. The permit authorizes you to gather a specified amount of dead wood, for your personal use, from any portion of the Sequoia National Forest open to woodcutting.

The Visitor Information Map shows the approximate boundaries of special areas such as wildernesses, major recreation areas, and special management zones that are permanently closed to woodcutting. Other small areas, such as active timber sales, may be closed temporarily due to contractual agreements and responsibilities of the logging contractor. In such cases, signs will be posted around the closed area.

When you purchase a permit, you will be provided with special maps and instructions relating to cutting. Due to changing conditions such as road closures, weather, timber sale activity, and changing supplies of wood, it will generally be necessary for you to secure current maps and instructions by a visit to the office administering the ranger district where you plan to cut. Remember that not all land within the interior boundary of the National Forest is public owned. It is your responsibility to be certain you are not trespassing on private land.

Troughs cut into the ground and berms along the road, caused by the winching or dragging of logs and firewood to the road, shall be filled in and smoothed out. Leave your work area in its natural state by repairing any damage you cause.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service
Pacific Southwest Region

Sequoia National Forest



A FINAL REMINDER- The firewood cutting program of the Sequoia National Forest benefits both you and the land we all own. A violation of any conditions in this brochure or on your firewood permit may void the permit and result in a citation. Collecting, taking, possessing or transporting any part of a tree or plant without a valid permit is in violation of 36 CFR 261.6(a), or 261.58(T).

- DO NOT cut standing dead trees on Hume Lake Ranger District.
- DO NOT cut any standing trees greater than 15 inches in diameter at ground level.
- BE SURE you comply with State laws:
Smoke only while sitting in an area at least 3 feet in diameter, cleared of all flammable materials down to mineral soil.
Equip all mechanical equipment powered by internal combustion engines with approved spark arresters or mufflers.
Keep either a round point shovel (not less than 46" long overall) or a State approved fire extinguisher (14 oz.) within 25 feet of your chainsaw while it is operating.
- This permit is not valid on private land.

A National Forest Visitor Map may be purchased at district offices.

Areas CLOSED to woodcutting are:

- Private land within the Forest boundary
- Forest administration stations
- Research or experimental areas
- Wilderness areas
- Giant Sequoia (Redwood) Groves
- Areas posted as closed to woodcutting by the Forest Service
- Areas shown as closed to wood cutting on map
Attached to permit.

For further information and permits contact:

Hume Lake Ranger District
35860 E. King's Canyon Rd. (hwy.180)
Dunlap, CA 93621
(661) 338-2251

Tule River/Hot Springs Ranger District
32588 Hwy. 190
Springville, CA 93265
(661) 539-2607

Bakersfield Visitor Center
3801 Pegasus Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308
(661) 391-6088

Kern River Ranger District
105 Whitney Road
P.O. Box 9
Kernville, CA 93538
(760) 376-3781

Kern River Ranger District
Lake Isabella Visitor Center
4875 Ponderosa Drive
PO Box 3810
Lake Isabella, CA 93240
(760) 379-5646

Blackrock Information Station
Kern Plateau
(760) 376-1666 (Generally June-October)

For information only contact (permits not sold here):

Sequoia National Forest
Supervisor's Office
900 W. Grand
Porterville, CA 93257
(559) 784-1500

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. KR/K 2-1-07-white